William Irving Sirovich

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE
FROM NEW YORK

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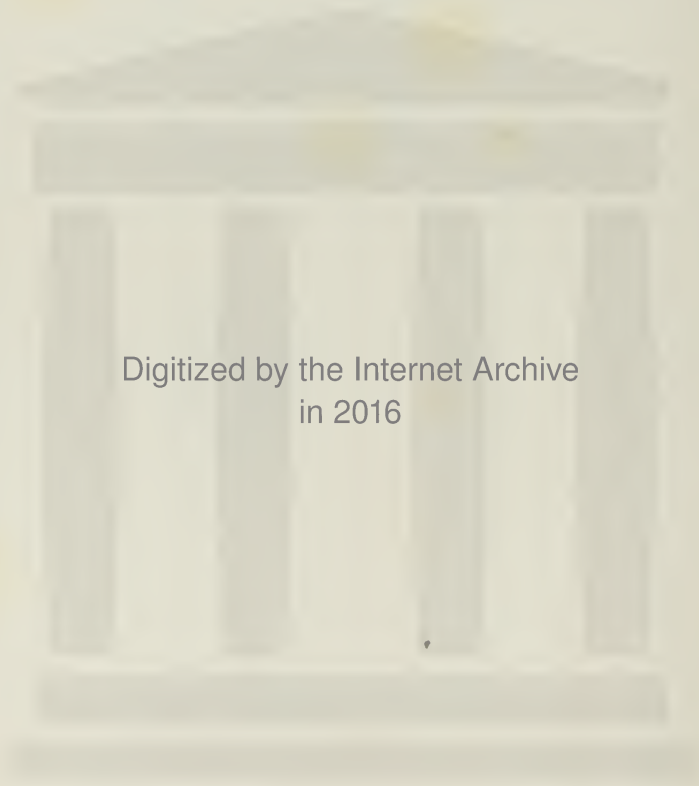

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U.S. 76th Cong., 3d sess., 1940. House.

Memorial Services

HELD IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE UNITED STATES, TOGETHER WITH
REMARKS PRESENTED IN EULOGY OF

William Irving Sirovich

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE
FROM NEW YORK

Seventy-sixth Congress
Third Session

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
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Biography

WILLIAM IRVING SIROVICH was born in York, York County, Pa., March 18, 1882; moved to New York City, N. Y., with his parents in 1888; attended the public schools; was graduated from the College of the City of New York in 1902 and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, New York City, in 1906; commenced the practice of medicine in New York City the same year; also engaged as a lecturer, editor, and playwright, several of his plays being produced on Broadway; member of the fifth school board, 1906–1926; served as superintendent of the Peoples Hospital, New York City, 1910–1927; appointed commissioner of child welfare in 1919 and served until 1931; elected a fellow of the American College of Surgeons in 1924; unsuccessful candidate for election in 1924 to the Sixty-ninth Congress; elected as a Democrat to the Seventieth and to the six succeeding Congresses and served from March 4, 1927, until his death; served as president of the Industrial National Bank, New York City, 1929–1932; died in New York City, N. Y., December 17, 1939; interment in Mount Hebron Cemetery, Flushing, Long Island, N. Y.

In the House of Representatives

MONDAY, *March 25, 1940.*

Mr. BULWINKLE. Mr. Speaker, I have sent to the Clerk's desk the usual resolution providing for memorial services for deceased Members of Congress to be held on Wednesday, April 24, and I ask its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

House Resolution 437

Resolved, That on Wednesday, the 24th day of April 1940, immediately after the approval of the Journal, the House shall stand at recess for the purpose of holding the memorial services as arranged by the Committee on Memorials, under the provisions of clause 40–A of rule XI. The order of exercises and proceedings of the service shall be printed in the Congressional Record, and all Members shall have leave to extend their remarks in the Congressional Record until the last issue of the Record of the third session of the Seventy-sixth Congress, on the life, character, and public service of the deceased Members. At the conclusion of the proceedings the Speaker shall call the House to order, and then, as a further mark of respect to the memories of the deceased, he shall declare the House adjourned.

* * * * *

The resolution was agreed to.

Memorial Services
in the
House of Representatives

Seventy-sixth Congress
Third Session

Memorial Service Program

Prelude, sacred selections (11:15 to 11:45)
United States Marine Band Orchestra

Presiding Officer------ The Speaker of the House of Representatives

Invocation--------- The Chaplain, Dr. James Shera Montgomery

Scripture reading and prayer---------- The Chaplain

There Is No Death (Geoffrey O'Hara)---------- Thomas L. Thomas

Roll of deceased Members
The Clerk of the House of Representatives

Devotional silence

The Living God (Geoffrey O'Hara)---------- Bill Perry

Address---------- Hon. Harry P. Beam
Representative from the State of Illinois

Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth (Felix Mendelssohn)-
Bill Perry

Address---------- Hon. Roy O. Woodruff
Representative from the State of Michigan

The Old Rugged Cross (Bennard)---------- Thomas L. Thomas

Taps---------- Winfred Kemp

Benediction---------- The Chaplain

William Irving Sirovich

Memorial Services

WEDNESDAY, *April 24, 1940.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore of the House of Representatives (Mr. Rayburn) presided.

The Chaplain, Dr. Montgomery:

Almighty God unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy name—Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The eternal God is Thy refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life; He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live and whosoever believeth in Me shall never die.

The righteous live forever and the care of them is with the Most High: With His right hand shall He cover them and with His arm shall He shield them.

For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations, before the mountains were brought forth or ever Thou hast formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting Thou art God. For a thousand years in Thy

sight are as yesterday when they are past, and as a watch in the night. Thou carriest them away as with a flood; They are as a sleep; In the morning they are like grass which groweth up; In the evening it is cut down and withereth. So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants, and Thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us and establish the works of our hands upon us; Yea, the works of our hands establish Thou it.

Let not your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you, for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto Myself, that where I am there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know. Thomas saith unto Him, Lord, we know not whither Thou goest; and how can we know the way. Jesus saith unto him, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Serene, I fold my hands and wait,
Nor care for wind, or tide, or sea.
I rave no more 'gainst time or fate,
For, lo! my own shall come to me.

I stay my haste, I make delays,
For what avails this eager pace?
I stand amid the eternal ways
And what is mine shall know my face.

Asleep, awake, by night or day,
The friends I seek are seeking me;
No wind can drive my bark astray,
Nor change the tide of destiny.

What matter if I stand alone?
I wait with joy the future years.
My heart shall reap where it hath sown,
And garner up its fruit of tears.

The stars come nightly to the sky,
The tidal wave unto the sea;
Nor time, nor space, nor deep, nor high,
Can keep my own away from me.

Oh, Thou in whose presence our souls take delight, on whom in affliction we call, Thou wert our fathers' God. In the darkness Thou gavest them light, in danger, succor, and in uncertainty, guidance. The light of Thy word was their inspiration, "Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." O let us hear the carol in the clouds, view the rock amid the waves, and see the star in the valley. Lead us, oh, Christ, in the toilsome way of Gethsemane and Calvary, and in all our needs give us strength and grace. Bless Thou the memory of those who have wrought well and passed on. Unto all hearts that are bowed down today, minister unto them the comfort and the consolations of Thy richest blessings.

We are reminded, dear Lord, that our days are swiftly passing by. Yesterday we were not, tomorrow we shall be gone. O how changing are the fortunes of life—laughter and tears, melody and lamentation. Mid the fleeing shadows, O may the good angels sing the song of hope in every breast. In our dear Redeemer's name. Amen.

Mr. Thomas L. Thomas sang "There Is No Death," by Geoffrey O'Hara.

ROLL OF DECEASED MEMBERS

Mr. Roger M. Calloway, reading clerk of the House, read the following roll:

MARVEL MILLS LOGAN, a Senator from the State of Kentucky: Lawyer; educator; county attorney, Edmonson County, 1902–03; Attorney General of Kentucky, 1916–17; Judge, Kentucky Court of Appeals, 1926–31; Chief Justice, 1931; chairman Democratic State Convention, 1916; elected to the United States Senate in 1930, and again in 1936. Died October 3, 1939.

WILLIAM EDGAR BORAH, a Senator from the State of Idaho: Lawyer; distinguished orator; member of the Republican National Committee, 1908–12; delegate, Republican National Convention, 1912; elected to the United States Senate in 1907, and served 32 years and 10 months; was chairman of the Senate Committees on Foreign Relations, and Education and Labor; dean of the Senate from 1933 until the day of his death, January 19, 1940.

BERT LORD, Thirty-fourth Congressional District of New York: Merchant; member New York Assembly, 1915–22, 1924–29; motor vehicle commissioner for the State of New York, 1921–23; State Senator, 1929–35; Member of the Seventy-fourth, Seventy-fifth, and Seventy-sixth Congresses. Died May 24, 1939.

EMMETT MARSHALL OWEN, Fourth Congressional District of Georgia: Lawyer; member, Georgia Legislature, 1902–06; solicitor, City Court of Zebulon, 1908–12; Solicitor General, Flint Judicial Circuit, 1913–23; Solicitor General, Griffin Judicial Circuit, 1923–33; Member of the Seventy-third and each succeeding Congress. Died June 21, 1939.

HARRY WILBUR GRISWOLD, Third Congressional District of Wisconsin: Farmer; educator; member, State Board of Vocational Education, 1930–36; served in the State Senate from 1932 to 1936; Member of the Seventy-sixth Congress. Died July 4, 1939.

SAMUEL DAVIS MCREYNOLDS, Third Congressional District of Tennessee: Lawyer; Judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit of the State of Tennessee, 1903–22; Member of the Sixty-eighth and each succeeding Congress; American delegate to the International Monetary and Economic Conference, in London, 1933; chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs. Died July 11, 1939.

THOMAS MARION EATON, Eighteenth Congressional District of California: Businessman; educator; served in the United States Navy during the World War; member, City Council, Long Beach, Calif., 1934–36; mayor of Long Beach, 1936–38; Member of the Seventy-sixth Congress. Died September 16, 1939.

THOMAS SANDERS MCMILLAN, First Congressional District of South Carolina: Farmer; educator; member, South Carolina House of Representatives, 1916–24; speaker, 1923–24; Member of the Sixty-ninth and each succeeding Congress; member of the Committee on Appropriations. Died September 29, 1939.

CHESTER CASTLE BOLTON, Twenty-second Congressional District of Ohio: Businessman; captain, United States Army Reserve Corps, serving successively with the War Industries Board, aide to the Assistant Secretary of War, and on the General Staff of the War Department; lieutenant colonel, Assistant Chief of Staff of the One Hundred and First Division; member of the Ohio Senate, 1923–28; Member of the Seventy-first and each succeeding Congress. Died October 29, 1939.

JAMES WILLIS TAYLOR, Second Congressional District of Tennessee: Lawyer; postmaster, La Follette, Tenn., 1904–09; mayor of La Follette, 1910–13; insurance commissioner, State of Tennessee, 1913–14; chairman, Republican State Executive Committee, 1917–18; Member of the Sixty-sixth and each succeeding Congress; ranking

minority member of the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization. Died November 14, 1939.

CARL EDGAR MAPES, Fifth Congressional District of Michigan: Lawyer; member, Michigan House of Representatives, 1905–07; member, State Senate, 1909–13; elected to the Sixty-third and each succeeding Congress; ranking minority member of the Committees on Rules and on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. Died December 12, 1939.

WILLIAM IRVING SIROVICH, Fourteenth Congressional District of New York: Physician and surgeon; fellow, American College of Surgeons, 1924; awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, Columbia University Alumni Association, 1932; Member of the Seventieth and each succeeding Congress; chairman of the Committee on Patents. Died December 17, 1939.

JOHN ANDREW MARTIN, Third Congressional District of Colorado: Lawyer, editor; soldier; member, Colorado Assembly, 1901–02; Pueblo city attorney, 1905–07; Member of the Sixty-first and Sixty-second Congresses, retiring voluntarily; during the World War served as a major, Fortieth Division; Member of the Seventy-third and each succeeding Congress. Died December 23, 1939.

WILLIAM ALBERT ASHBROOK, Seventeenth Congressional District of Ohio: Editor; banker; farmer; publisher of the Johnstown Independent since 1885; postmaster, Johnstown, 1893–97; member, Ohio House of Representatives, 1904–05; Member of the Sixtieth through the Sixty-sixth Congresses, also the Seventy-fourth and each succeeding Congress. Died January 1, 1940.

GEORGE HENRY HEINKE, First Congressional District of Nebraska: Lawyer; graduate, University of Nebraska, 1908; county attorney, Otoe County, 1919–23, 1927–35; Member of the Seventy-sixth Congress; served on the Committees on Election of the President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress; Labor; and the Territories. Died January 2, 1940.

WALLACE EDGAR PIERCE, Thirty-first Congressional District of New York: Lawyer; member, New York Bar Association; member, New York Assembly, 1917–19; chairman, Clinton County Republican Committee; member, New York State Republican Committee; elected to the Seventy-sixth Congress; served on the Committee on the Judiciary. Died January 3, 1940.

EDWARD WALTER CURLEY, Twenty-second Congressional District of New York: Builder and contractor; member of the Board of Aldermen, New York City, 1916–35; chairman or ranking member

of all major committees of the board; elected to the Seventy-fourth and each succeeding Congress; member of the Committees on Labor, Civil Service, Election of the President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress; and Invalid Pensions. Died January 6, 1940.

CASSIUS CLAY DOWELL, Sixth Congressional District of Iowa: Lawyer; member, Iowa House of Representatives, 1894–98; member, State senate, 1902–12; Member of the Sixty-fourth through the Seventy-third, Seventy-fifth and Seventy-sixth Congresses; ranking minority member of the Committee on the Territories. Died February 4, 1940.

CLYDE HAROLD SMITH, Second Congressional District of Maine: Educator; member, State house of representatives, 1899–1903, 1919–23; State senator, 1923–29; chairman, State Highway Commission, 1928–32; member, Governor's Council, Fourth District, 1933–37; elected to the Seventy-fifth and the Seventy-sixth Congresses. Died April 8, 1940.

SANTIAGO IGLESIAS, a Resident Commissioner from the Territory of Puerto Rico: Labor organizer; editor; founder of the Free Federation of Workingmen in Puerto Rico, 1898; member, Puerto Rican senate, 1917–32; edited the Porvenir Social, 1898–1900, Union Obera, 1903–06 and Justicia, 1914–25; Resident Commissioner from 1932 until his death December 5, 1939.

Mrs. NORTON, a Representative from the State of New Jersey, standing in front of the Speaker's rostrum, placed a memorial rose in a vase as the name of each deceased Member was read by the Clerk.

Then followed 1 minute of devotional silence.

Mr. Bill Perry sang "The Living God," by Geoffrey O'Hara.

Hon. HARRY P. BEAM, a Representative from the State of Illinois, delivered the following address:

ADDRESS BY HON. HARRY P. BEAM

Mr. BEAM. Mr. Speaker, today we assemble in solemn conclave to pay honor and tribute to our dead. No question of state or parliamentary controversy can disturb the tranquillity of the occasion as we recall with fond and happy recollection the close and intimate association we enjoyed

in the crucible of public service with our departed colleagues, who now rest forever in the calm and peaceful bosom of eternity.

Of all the events in life, death, with its mysterious realism, is the most startling and dramatic. No one can stand in its awful presence and not be moved to a deeper and more abiding solicitude for the rights of our fellow man; nor can one encounter its grim realities without becoming more tolerant, more sympathetic, more understanding of the frailties of human nature and without a deeper conscientious realization of our own imperfection and mortality.

How fleeting is time and how transitory and temporal is the applause of the people or the honors and dignities conferred upon man in the short span of human life. And what a stern realization of that fact have we before us today, as we listen in vain for voices we knew so well to respond to the roll call who but a short yesterday were active participators in the deliberations of our body and wielded vast and far-reaching influence in the formation of the legislative program of the Nation.

> Away. We know that tears are vain,
> That Death nor heeds nor hears distress:
> Will this unteach us to complain?
> Or make one mourner weep the less?
> And thou, who tellst me to forget,
> Thy looks are wan, thine eyes are wet.

Our colleagues whose untimely passing we commemorate today were privileged to serve their country during some of the most crucial and fateful years in the history of the Republic.

During their official service as Members of the Congress of the United States they viewed with alarm and deep concern the grave uncertainty and distress which engulfed the citizenship of our land. During those early days of the depression they observed their fellow citizens in mass formation storm the very doors of the Nation's Capitol, demanding food

and shelter for themselves and for their families. They witnessed the bankruptcy of agriculture, the prostration of business, the failure of thousands of banking institutions throughout the land, the foreclosure of countless homes and farms, the sorry and desperate plight of the wage earner and the farmer, and the prevailing fear and trepidation which seemed to strike at the very heart and sinews of our American national life.

Our departed colleagues, with undismayed courage and a high conception of American statesmanship faced their grave responsibility and contributed generously and unreservedly of their sagacious counsel, and their profound knowledge and wisdom, in devising ways and means to remedy these oppressing conditions and to relieve the circumstances which were well-nigh overwhelming the moral courage and grim fortitude of our people.

They were active participators in the great emergency program to revive agriculture, to furnish governmental aid, and financial assistance to business and industry, and to restore confidence and security in our banking system. They actively assisted in the enactment of laws to alleviate the suffering of our citizens and were contributors to all social legislation for the welfare of the poor and underprivileged of our land.

Our departed colleagues were privileged to serve in the Congress of the United States during the rise of the dictators and witnessed the tremendous growth of the nefarious doctrines of communism and nazi-ism, and saw them become the dominant policy and religion, so to speak, of countless numbers of heretofore God-fearing men and women of great nations of the world.

They observed in their lifetime the war clouds again hover over the nations of Europe, threatening to engulf the entire world once more in conflagration. They witnessed the march of the highly mechanized and modernized armies of the dictators against countries ill-equipped for war, and by fire and sword saw them conquer and destroy nations, subject their

citizens to a lifetime of sorrow and misery, and bury forever the last vestige of hope for liberty and freedom for untold millions of human beings.

Robert Ingersoll, appearing before the tomb of Napoleon, expressed himself in the following words:

> I would rather have been a French peasant and worn wooden shoes. I would rather have lived in a hut with a vine growing over the door, and the grapes growing purple in the amorous kisses of the autumn sun. I would rather have been that poor peasant, with my loving wife by my side, knitting as the day died out of the sky, with my children upon my knees and their arms about me. I would rather have been that man, and gone down to the tongueless silence of the dreamless dust, than to have been that imperial impersonation of force and murder, known as Napoleon the Great.

I pause and wonder, my fellow colleagues, when at some time in the future, when these dictators who have caused the pangs of war to again cloud the happiness and peace of the world are summoned to embark on that fateful voyage, from which no traveler returneth, what complacency of thought, what peace of mind and heart can be theirs. When the very shrouds which enwrap their cold and lifeless clay shall be drenched with the blood and tears of countless numbers of human beings, decreed by them to a vale of misery, suffering, famine, pestilence, and death.

> The garlands wither on your brow;
> Then boast no more your mighty deeds;
> Upon death's purple altar now
> See where the victor—victim bleeds;
> Your heads must come
> To the cold tomb;
> Only the actions of the just
> Smell sweet, and blossom in their dust.

What a sad commentary of fate that in this age of enlightenment, of intellectual development, of cultural advancement, and of great scientific discoveries—all for the happiness and betterment of mankind—that the people of the world should again be plunged into the horrors and terrors of war, with all the resulting suffering and misery therein entailed.

From the sad plight and appalling despair of these unfortunate nations, let us resolve that, from the hallowed ashes of our departed colleagues, never again shall we vote to plunge America into a foreign holocaust of war, or ever again consecrate any foreign soil with the lifeblood of our American youth, to save or preserve the integrity of any foreign monarchy, dynasty, or power.

America will fight only for America, and to keep inviolate our priceless heritage of liberty and freedom, and the preservation of our democratic form of government.

These were the ideals, my fellow citizens, our departed colleagues cherished and sustained in their lifetime, and for the love of which they nobly laid down their lives. As distinguished Members of Congress, they served their country loyally and well, and carved their names high in the annals of American statesmanship. They enjoyed the love and affection of their fellow citizens, and the respect and esteem of their fellow Members of Congress. They have left to their loved ones, and to the Nation, a noble heritage of honor and glory upon the altar of public service.

This is the last time the names of our departed colleagues will ever be officially called from the floor of the Congress of the United States. No more shall we disturb the tranquillity of their slumber; no more shall we derange the peace and calm of their repose; but, with the hallowed love and enduring affection of the Congress of the United States, and the entire Nation, we reconsecrate their tombs with the fervent hopes and prayers of all America that from their noble and revered spirits we may rededicate our efforts to keep aglow the torch of liberty and freedom they so valiantly and patriotically carried in the service of their country, and which they now pass on to us, unsullied and undefiled.

Their love of country, their ardor and devotion to their Nation's welfare, their nobility of character have forever enshrined their memory in a diadem of perpetual light, which will glow, with ever-increasing splendor, in the hearts of their fellow countrymen, long after monuments of granite and

stone have crumbled into dust and decay; and so, with all our heartfelt affection, compassion, and reverence, we fondly say, "Farewell, our beloved colleagues; farewell forever":

Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee,—are all with thee!

Mr. Bill Perry sang "Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth" (Felix Mendelssohn).

Hon. ROY O. WOODRUFF, a Representative from the State of Michigan, delivered the following address:

ADDRESS BY HON. ROY O. WOODRUFF, OF MICHIGAN

Mr. WOODRUFF of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, again there has come that day which we dedicate to our colleagues who have crossed over to that mystic realm from which no traveler returns.

Our hearts, of course, are full of thoughts which cannot be expressed in words, and of feelings which we do not even wish to voice here.

The passing of a colleague brings to each and every one of us not only grief at the severing of associations but a somber pondering on the meaning of this enigma of human existence. The mortal sense of life would make of man little more than the grass of the fields, flourishing for a brief season, and then withering away. Compared to eternity the human span is but a twinkling. We are apt to forget that billions of individuals have come and gone; millions who are now living will, in no great stretch of time, join the silent majority.

One may well wonder sometimes whether we take ourselves too seriously on this tiny grain of sand whirling through space in the company of millions of other planets, making up the galaxies of the universe. When we stop to realize by what a narrow margin we cling to that which we call life, we wonder not that some of our colleagues have gone from us, but that more have not gone.

And yet, Mr. Speaker, there is more to life than death. It is inconceivable in logic that those who have toiled here with us, that those who gave of their best to the cause of government, that those who lived and studied and worked and planned for the welfare of their country, their fellow men, and their more immediate loved ones should cease to be when the shadow of death descended over them.

There is no possible human logic to justify any conclusion that death ends the activity of those we have known and loved. An all-powerful, all-wise, all-loving ever-present Creative Intelligence would fulfill no purpose in creating human identities to be born to work, and strive, and laugh, and cry for a brief, fevered instant on this earth, only to pass out and to return to a state of nonbeing. That would be like a child building up a mound of sand but to sweep it away the next instant.

Every tenet of religious faith, every tenet of philosophy, every tenet of logic, every tenet of human hope bids us to be of good cheer because our colleagues, having passed beyond our ken, are not forever blotted out but live on and work on.

None can explain the mystery of death. We can hope. None can reason how or why our colleagues should have been called, except that that is the way of the flesh. But there is vast consolation, Mr. Speaker, in the hope and the faith that our colleagues, somewhere, in some happier realm, labor on, rising ever upward in their striving to attain truth.

So, instead of grieving, I think we can find it in our hearts today to be grateful to infinite love that we were permitted to know our colleagues, to be associated with them, to work with them, and to cherish their memories as we hope those left behind when we go will cherish memories of us.

That great philosopher, that kindly gentleman, that able Justice of the Supreme Court, the late Oliver Wendell Holmes, once put into words the hope and the faith that I would voice to you here today. Said he:

I was walking homeward on Pennsylvania Avenue near the Treasury, and as I looked beyond Sherman's statue to the west the

sky was aflame with scarlet and crimson from the setting sun. But, like the note of downfall in Wagner's opera, below the skyline there came from little globes the pallid discord of electric lights, and I thought to myself the Gotterdammerung will end, and from those globes clustered like evil eggs will come the new masters of the sky. It is like the time in which we live. But, then, I remembered the faith that I partly have expressed, faith in a universe not measured by our fears, a universe that has thought, and more than thought, inside of it, and as I gazed, after the sunset, and above the electric lights, there shone the stars.

And something else that great jurist said I want to repeat to you. It was this:

I think it not improbable that man, like the grub that prepares a chamber for the winged thing it has never seen but is to be—that man may have cosmic destinies that he does not understand. And so beyond the vision of battling races and an impoverished earth I catch a dreaming glimpse of peace.

Who is to say that out of the depth of his wisdom, gained from his lifelong study of profound truths, Oliver Wendell Holmes may not have been right—that man may have cosmic destinies he does not understand. And so beyond the vision of battling races and an impoverished earth we may catch a dreaming glimpse of peace.

It is this beautiful star of human hope, shining above the pallid glare of earth's electric lights, in the blue sky of a universe in which there is thought, and more than thought, that carries us through the storms and the stresses and the sorrows and the sicknesses, and enables us to bear the thought of the parting at death.

It seems to be, Mr. Speaker, the common fate of kings and beggars, of just and unjust, of saint and sinner, that each of us shall sometime embark upon that journey from earth to the far yonder shores of an unknown eternity.

If we believe that death is the end of those personalities whom we have known and loved as our colleagues, then, indeed, is death a truly dreadful event. If, however, we are to believe that those who have preceded us on that mystical journey, clinging to the hand of the Saviour, consciously

trusting in the infinite love of the Creator, are going on to other tasks—higher tasks, mayhap—then death is not the end, but the beginning of life.

So, then, as our hearts today are sad, as our thoughts are somber, as we find in our breasts an aching longing for the touch of hands that have vanished and the sound of voices now stilled, it is rather because of our own loneliness that we grieve, the loss of championship and association that we miss, than for any fear or any belief that our departed and beloved colleagues have been blotted out, or condemned to some oblivion.

Why, Mr. Speaker, what would be the purpose of life, what would be the use of this human struggle, what would be the use of our efforts, what purpose would we serve by our tears or our smiles, if the grave were the end of it all? Ah, no, life is eternal. We must progress onward and upward until we become more aware of that image and likeness in which we are created.

And, so, Mr. Speaker, let us be firm in the hope; let us find comfort in the thought, that our dear departed colleagues have moved further along toward their cosmic destinies which they may not understand, and, as Holmes so beautifully said, beyond the vision of battling races and an impoverished earth, that they have realized that peace of which we here may catch but a dreaming glimpse.

Mr. Thomas L. Thomas sang "The Old Rugged Cross," by Bennard.

Mr. Winfred Kemp, principal musician, United States Marine Band Orchestra, sounded taps.

The Chaplain, Rev. James Shera Montgomery, D. D., pronounced the benediction:

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace, both now and evermore. Amen.

Memorial Addresses
on
William Irving Sirovich

Memorial Addresses

Remarks by Representative Kennedy

Of New York

Mr. MARTIN J. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, ladies, and gentlemen, on December 17 Dr. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, chairman of the House Committee on Patents, died in his home in New York City. The shock saddened my holidays, and I am sure it similarly affected the other Members. Representative SIROVICH was elected to Congress in November 1926, from the Fourteenth District of my State.

No more shall we hear that brilliant oratory that held us spellbound, nor shall we know that friendly encouragement he offered. During the 13 years that he served as a Representative I doubt a more keen mind, a wider vocabulary of the ancient languages, or a more remarkable memory could have been found in this House. Nor was there a more benevolent character.

It is ironical that he, who warned us against overwork and of the necessity for lightening our tasks with proper diversion, was himself a victim of that very zeal. He was never idle mentally. He ignored symptoms that would have aroused him if they had developed in a friend. At times he must have had a premonition that his earthly time was short, because during the last two sessions he frequently was on the verge of collapse but refused to give up any of his official duties.

I attended the funeral services and followed the cortege to his last resting place on this earth. Now and then, as I look about this Chamber, I picture in my mind his well-tailored figure, the ever present red carnation in his lapel, his

friendly smile, and his overpowering sincerity as he held our attention.

The night before he died he attended a formal dinner of the Rose Sirovich Relief Society, a society named after his mother. I like to think that his last thoughts were of the woman who had borne such a brilliant son.

Dr. SIROVICH was a humanitarian—a physician and surgeon by profession. He attained high rank as a statesman, and he gave all of his legislative ability to bettering the economic conditions of his people, just as he gave his services as a doctor to heal the ills of his people.

His modest home was his office, and when he was not here working as a legislator to correct defects in government he was to be found in his surgery prescribing for and attending old friends who came to his home to have the doctor remedy the defects of the body.

Before he came to Congress Dr. SIROVICH was active in welfare work and at one time he served, by appointment of Governor Sulzer, as a member of a special committee on widows' pensions. On the same committee was Franklin D. Roosevelt, then a State senator. One of the last official acts of Dr. SIROVICH was to pay a visit to the President at the White House, and I can well believe that one of the topics he discussed with the President concerned the welfare of the underprivileged.

As a physician and surgeon, as a Member of Congress, and as an individual he was a great benefactor. His fame grew and his plurality increased each time he stood for reelection to Congress. Probably because of his intense interest in behalf of the less fortunate, Dr. SIROVICH never married. He once referred to himself as the "stepfather of 40,000 orphans," and there are many orphaned children growing to manhood and womanhood who will long remember his unselfish character and kindness.

Those of us who were here on the floor just a minute before the special session adjourned last November witnessed a scene

that demonstrated his loyalty. An employee of one of the Government departments had been criticized—unjustly, he thought—on the floor that day, and the last utterance of Dr. SIROVICH was a defense of this employee. He ended his tribute as follows:

> It takes a lifetime for a man to build up an honorable character. It takes but a moment to destroy it.

Dr. SIROVICH left his work unfinished, but he left it well done and everlasting. I can only hope that over his grave the winds blow soft and gently and the sun shines warmly, as did his heart beat for the people of all races and creeds.

Remarks by Representative Sabath

Of Illinois

Mr. SABATH. Mr. Speaker, "He was a good man, and a just."

Mr. Speaker, I join in the estimates of the late Dr. WILLIAM IRVING SIROVICH which have been so eloquently pronounced by ripe scholars; and I share in the general grief caused by the premature closing of a career which only a few weeks ago was so rich in achievement and full of promise for the future.

It is no mean achievement to serve as a civic and political leader in city, county, and State and to represent an intelligent and important constituency in the National House of Representatives for 13 years. Such is the enviable record of Dr. SIROVICH.

During his active and useful career our departed friend witnesses the mightiest strides in material development the world has ever seen. He saw the Republic grow from the chaos of civil war to its present commanding place among the important nations of the earth. He saw the great Empire State, of which he was a son by adoption, leap forward with giant bounds, valiantly maintaining her place at the head of the mighty procession of the States of our majestic Union. His pride in the forward strides of the State and the Nation was justified, for in the upbuilding of both he played the part of an active, earnest, and public-spirited citizen.

Neither a laggard nor a drone, for more than 35 years he was in the thick of the conflict which accompanies and stimulates progress. Throughout his whole life Dr. SIROVICH was a popular type of the American optimist, and he imparted confidence and enthusiasm to all within the influence of his delightful, magnanimous personality. Industrious and

successful in private enterprise, he was alert and influential in public affairs, and he ably contributed to that ceaseless mental combat and attrition of thought whose constant flashes light the guiding torch of civilization that illumines the pathway of liberty and law.

His impulses were generous, his sympathies broad, his intellect keen. Wherever this good man was, in whatever sphere he moved, the friendless had a friend, the fatherless a father, and the poor man, though unable to reward his kindness, found an advocate.

It was when the rich oppressed the poor; when the powerful menaced the defenseless; when truth was disregarded or the eternal principles of justice were violated—it was on these occasions that he exerted all his strength; it was on these occasions that he sometimes soared so high and shone with a radiance so transcendent, as filled those around him with awe and gave him the force and authority of a prophet. His voice was virtue's consolation. At his approach oppressed humanity felt a secret rapture, and the heart of injured innocence leaped for joy.

Dr. Sirovich was a patriot. He understood and loved his country and its institutions. For many years, at great personal and domestic sacrifice, he gave loyal, generous, and disinterested service to his country's honor. He had an illimitable faith in the Republic for which he did so much and which did so much for him; he had unwavering confidence in his fellow countrymen and in their attachments to the principles of liberty and their capacity to right wrongs and uproot evils. In their active, watchful, and vigilant patriotism he saw the best security against the evils that beset all governments. His best tribute was the repeated expression of confidence and approbation that came to him by way of election and reelection from his fellow citizens in New York City, who knew him so well and valued his character and attainments so highly.

The promptness and fairness of his dealings here were no small contribution to the expedition of important public business, and the lucidity with which he revealed his exceptional, encyclopedic knowledge of a great, intricate world, its history, and its complex affairs was a constant source of pleasure and satisfaction.

In his expoundings on this floor and before his committees he employed the purity, grace, and exactitude of Addison; the richness, splendor, eloquence, and music of De Quincey; the fluency, flexibility, and finish of Lamb.

I knew Dr. SIROVICH well from the day he became a Member of this House until he passed away. Our relations were very intimate, and I was always inspired by his selfless constructive plans. He was an indefatigable worker, as if he had a premonition that his days on earth would be shortened, as they were, and he must work exceedingly hard to accomplish many important things that rested near his heart. Measured by the most exacting standards, our honorable dead was a very useful, good citizen and a sagacious legislator. He never became weary in welldoing.

When in a narrow circle of friends our departed friend was, in addition to being courtly, grave and reflective. He was an enviable entertainer, ranging widely and deeply in subjects proposed for discussion.

This good man was devoutly religious, and methinks that his illumined spirit now whispers from the heaven, with well-known eloquence, the solemn admonition, "Mortals, hastening to the tomb, and once the companions of my pilgrimage, take warning and avoid my errors; cultivate the virtues I have recommended; choose the Saviour I have chosen; live disinterestedly; live for immortality; and, would you rescue anything from final dissolution, lay it up in God."

Let us believe that such teaching and influence have not been ineffective, but death has made them more solemnly impressive and has added a kind of consecration to the lofty example which we have too listlessly seen builded in our midst.

If we may hope that this teaching and example have been endued by death with new potency, as forces creating better and purer citizenship, with graver import as instrumentalities in the creation, stimulation, and harmonization of patriotic ideals, and if we may hope that our countrymen will with sincerity heed the way of duty they point out, we may not only be doubly assured that our dead is not lost to us but may confidently renew our faith in the American people as custodians of their scheme of free government.

In conclusion, let us realize our obligation to make safe and secure the government of the people which has been committed to our keeping. Let us remember that it can thrive and grow only in an atmosphere of popular devotion and unselfish attachment and, above all things, let us open our hearts to such influences and teachings as emanate from the life and death which we today memorialize.

Remarks by Representative Celler

Of New York

Mr. CELLER. Mr. Speaker, my good friend and colleague, WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, is with us no more. His untimely demise a number of weeks ago brought to a close the brilliant career of one who combined within himself the virtues of a great leader, an outstanding American, and a true statesman.

His profound intellect and persuasive eloquence were known even beyond the Halls of Congress, which he had adorned with honor for many years.

His sympathies were always with the underprivileged, the poor, and the oppressed. Their problems were his problems, and he died as he had lived, working in their interests.

Our good friend was a true soldier in the service of humanity. A lifetime of good deeds will be an everlasting tribute to his memory.

Remarks by Representative Dickstein

Of New York

Mr. DICKSTEIN. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the Record, I include the following brief remarks together with a letter and resolution of the Marine Firemen, Oilers, and Water Tenders and Wipers' Association in connection with the death of Dr. SIROVICH:

Seamen present were J. Follette, Leonard Harrison, John Boyles, Alfred Chavez, members of the Pacific Coast Marine Firemen, Oilers, Water Tenders and Wipers' Association, and Walter D. Fisher, former legislative representative for the West Coast Maritime Union, now a regular seaman, who read the following presentation:

Congressman DICKSTEIN, we are here for one purpose, and that is to honor the memory of the late Congressman WILLIAM I. SIROVICH.

We, as seamen, realize that Congressman SIROVICH was very instrumental in trying to better our conditions, and for some of the special legislation which he sponsored we are very grateful.

I think his most outstanding accomplishment was the legislation relating to unemployment compensation for seamen. We have never had it, and Congressman SIROVICH went so far as to introduce a bill and call it the Sirovich bill. He planned at the next session of Congress to champion this bill and get it through for us. We all know that Congressman SIROVICH had no seamen in his district, and in his loss we mourn the loss of a true friend and champion.

These seamen here with me are the rank-and-file men on the Pacific coast, and we wish to state that Congressman SIROVICH'S work has even reached the seamen on the Pacific coast, who have benefited also.

I have here a letter which I would like to read and a resolution which I would ask you to kindly introduce into the Congressional Record.

PACIFIC COAST MARINE FIREMEN, OILERS, WATER TENDERS AND WIPERS' ASSOCIATION,
San Francisco, Calif., December 19, 1939.

Hon. SAMUEL DICKSTEIN,
70 Pine Street, New York, N. Y.

DEAR SIR: Attached herewith you will find copy of resolution memorializing the late Dr. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, Member of Congress.

We hope that you will find the opportunity to read it into the Congressional Record as some expression of appreciation of this union of the lifelong sympathy of Dr. SIROVICH with the aspirations of organized labor.

The undersigned wishes also at the same time to convey to you my personal sense of loss. In my contacts with Dr. SIROVICH I have always found him to be warm, sympathetic, and understanding. He was a devoted public servant.

The attached resolution is brought to you by three rank-and-file members of the union who have been selected as a committee to convey this memorial to you, inasmuch as you have always been so closely associated with him in his work.

Sincerely yours,

WM. L. WELCH,
Agent, New York Branch.

Whereas the late Honorable Dr. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH met his untimely death on December 17, 1939, it now becomes the sad duty of this organization to give expression to our sorrow and to pay a just tribute to his memory.

Dr. SIROVICH served not only the entire Nation and all of his fellow citizens, regardless of race, class, or creed, but rendered an unusually important service to the cause of organized labor.

The late Dr. SIROVICH has labored devotedly for many years in behalf of the American seamen. His efforts have contributed to an unusually important extent in the amelioration of working conditions and the improvement of the health and social position of our brothers who pursue the sea as a calling.

His training as a physician and his profound insight into public affairs and social problems combined to equip him in outstanding manner to perform his duties in the National Legislature. He was an outstanding figure in Congress.

He was warmly sympathetic and understanding with the problems of labor. He was readily accessible at all times and labored incessantly at tasks of great public importance.

With the greatest of regret we have noted that he passed away in the midst of his labors and that he was prevented by his untimely end from bringing to a successful conclusion cherished plans for further betterment of the lot of the American seamen. The loss of such an able and distinguished friend cannot be easily replaced: Therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the Pacific Coast Marine Firemen, Oilers, Water Tenders and Wipers' Association, do declare that by the untimely passing of this eminent physician and legislator the citizens of this Nation have lost a faithful, distinguished, and able servant of outstanding integrity; and be it further

Resolved, That the secretary transmit a copy of this resolution to the members of the family of the deceased as an expression of the deep and heartfelt sympathy of the members of this organization; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be submitted to the friend and associate of the deceased, the Honorable SAMUEL DICKSTEIN, with a request that the same be spread upon the records of Congress as a tribute of respect of this organization to the memory of Dr. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH.

Remarks by Representative Scrugham

Of Nevada

Mr. SCRUGHAM. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the Record, I include the following tribute to the late Representative SIROVICH by the Democratic steering committee of the House:

In the passing of WILLIAM SIROVICH, the Democratic steering committee of the House of Representatives has lost a faithful member and a conscientious officer.

His broad experience, good judgment, and wise counsel proved valuable to the work of the Democratic steering committee, and he won the respect of all with whom he was brought into contact.

Mindful of their long association with Representative SIROVICH as an official of this body, and of his constructive work on behalf of this organization, the members of the Democratic steering committee gratefully record its appreciation of him by adopting the following:

Be it resolved, That we attest to the inspiration and support Representative SIROVICH brought to the deliberations of this committee, and the House committees upon which he faithfully served; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this organization, and that a copy be sent to the family of Dr. SIROVICH as a testimonial of our sincere appreciation of his usefulness, not only as a member of the Democratic steering committee, but also as a member of the United States House of Representatives.

Remarks by Representative Culkin

Of New York

Mr. CULKIN. Mr. Speaker, the passing of Congressman WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, of the Fourteenth District of New York was a great shock to the Congress. During my service here in Congress I had come to know him intimately. I had served with him on the Merchant Marine Committee of the House and had come to know and respect and admire his splendid qualities of mind and heart.

Dr. SIROVICH was a true humanitarian. His outstanding trait was an unfailing devotion to the cause of the underprivileged. He knew and understood the economic handicaps of the man in the street. His service in the House was marked by a devotion to the underprivileged. Economic injustice always roused his ire, and he fought a continuing battle for those whose lives are not cast along happy lines. This was his outstanding characteristic. May his soul rest in peace.

Remarks by Representative Kramer

Of California

Mr. KRAMER. Mr. Speaker, when the messenger of death knocked at the door of the House and summoned to everlasting life our dearly beloved colleague, Congressman WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, he took one of our most beloved Members.

My acquaintance and friendship with the "Doctor," as he was familiarly known, began when I was elected to Congress in 1932, and during the 7 years I served with him on the Patents Committee I became very fond of him and admired his brilliant statesmanship. The value of his friendship is inestimable, and to evaluate his achievements is wellnigh impossible. The scope of his labors was almost all-embracing, and he was a dominent influence in whatever field of endeavor he was occupied. He was a most forceful and eloquent speaker, and his silver-tongued oratory will long be remembered.

Mere words are inadequate to pay tribute to the noble, self-sacrificing, energetic personality that was Dr. SIROVICH. His loss will be keenly felt for a long time to come. We salute and cherish his memory—we believe that in the breast of all who knew him there is enshrined an unwritten memorial of his deeds—we pray his departed soul may rest in peace.

Remarks by Representative Merritt

Of New York

Mr. MERRITT. Mr. Speaker, our late colleague, "Doc" SIROVICH, as he was affectionately known among the Members of the House, whose sudden departure we deplore and whose passing we mourn, was a scholarly gentleman and an able legislator.

His sincerity at all times was admirable, and at no time was the constituency of this Representative ever neglected or their rights jeopardized by his actions.

He was the exemplar of humanitarianism, his every act was kindness toward his fellow man.

In his death we have lost a real friend and wise counselor.

Remarks by Representative Fay

Of New York

Mr. FAY. Mr. Speaker, this memorial service in the House of Representatives in commemoration of our departed colleagues brings to mind a former Member of Congress whose kindly spirit, unselfish devotion, and integrity endeared him to the hearts of all who knew him.

I speak of Dr. WILLIAM IRVING SIROVICH, who represented the Fourteenth District of New York City and served through the Seventieth, Seventy-first, Seventy-second, Seventy-third, Seventy-fourth, and Seventy-fifth Congresses, was reelected to the Seventy-sixth Congress, and died during his tenure of office.

While serving as a junior Member of the House, it was my good fortune to count on Dr. SIROVICH as a wise and friendly counselor, who was never too burdened with his own problems to lend a helpful hand to a colleague.

Dr. SIROVICH was known for his simplicity, his purposeful directness, his humanitarian sympathies which served the people of the Fourteenth District of New York City for so many years.

He was born in York, Pa., in 1882, devoted himself as he grew into manhood to the study of medicine. Perseverance to high principles in his professional practice and private life enabled him to grasp a keen insight, not only into sick and injured bodies, but also into the very souls of those to whom his healing hands administered. He developed an intuition into the unexpressed hopes and fears of mankind and began to realize that man might well serve his brothers by becoming an instrument through which the democratic principles of Americanism could be demonstrated; he knew that security, a good standard of living, improved housing conditions, and assurances of a true representation of the people through our

form of government were also vital to the well-being of the Nation.

And so WILLIAM IRVING SIROVICH became a public servant of the United States of America and served well and faithfully for many long years, gaining the love and respect of all those with whom he came in contact.

Brave, courageous, and farsighted, he had the courage of his convictions and stood steadfast on those principles he believed right and just.

It is a sad loss to us and to the country at large that our friend passed on before his life span had normally completed itself. I feel that Dr. SIROVICH himself would have said, "As long as I must leave you now, I am proud to depart while still in the service of our wonderful country which I love so much."

Therefore, this should be no occasion for sadness, but rather one of thankfulness that it was our privilege to work side by side with such a great exponent of Americanism.

In assuring his family of our great sympathy, I wish also to pledge to them that the citizenship, love of country, and conscientious adherence to humanitarian principles exhibited by WILLIAM IRVING SIROVICH will always linger over this body, as a perpetual example of a great American.

Remarks by Representative Fitzpatrick

Of New York

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, my first meeting with Hon. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH was in the Seventieth Congress, when we were serving our first term in the House of Representatives.

He was a sympathetic, kind, and understanding person, and always worked untiringly in behalf of the struggling masses in this country.

As a doctor of medicine, he was always ready and willing to serve the poor people of his district in a professional capacity. As a Member of Congress he advocated the enactment of humanitarian legislation that would be beneficial to the people throughout the United States.

His passing is not only a loss to the people of his congressional district but to the Nation as a whole.

Remarks by Representative Cullen

Of New York

Mr. CULLEN. Mr. Speaker, in the death of the Honorable WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, late Representative in Congress from the Fourteenth Congressional District of New York, the House has lost one of its most distinguished Members.

It was my pleasure to have known Congressman SIROVICH most intimately for many years in the practice of medicine in the city of New York, where he was one of the city's most outstanding and celebrated physicians. As a physician, and as a citizen, he stood for the best interests of his community and his country. The finest words that can be spoken of him tell of his devotion to his constituency. They were always uppermost in his thoughts. He not only gave them loyal and faithful service as a legislator, but gave freely of his medical advice and skill to many who were unable to remunerate him because of their financial insecurity. It can be truthfully said that Dr. SIROVICH was a great humanitarian and his one objective in life was to serve his fellow man.

He was elected to Congress on March 4, 1927, and served continuously until the time of his death on December 17, 1939. At the time of his untimely death he was chairman of the important Patents Committee and also ranking majority member of the important Civil Service Committee. He was an indefatigable worker and his counsel and advice was frequently sought in connection with national problems.

Dr. SIROVICH was in all probability one of the most intellectual and cultured men who ever served in the House of Representatives. He was generally recognized as an authority on historical subjects and frequently held the House spellbound with his orations on history and the various political changes which have taken place throughout the centuries.

Death has deprived America of a devoted and distinguished public servant. It has deprived those of us who were close to him of a friend who cannot be replaced.

Remarks by Representative Rich

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. RICH. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join in paying tribute to the memory of my late colleague and fellow Member WILLIAM SIROVICH, from the State of New York. Throughout his career of public service, he gave himself unstintingly in the performance of his many and arduous duties. His sterling personal qualities and outstanding ability won for him the esteem and respect of all with whom he came in contact. It has been my privilege and pleasure to know and work with WILLIAM SIROVICH. His death came as a great shock to his host of friends throughout the Nation. His life was marked by many worthy achievements and his name will long be remembered as that of one who wrought much and well for the district in which he lived and the State and Nation to whom he devoted his life.

Remarks by Representative Edelstein

Of New York

Mr. EDELSTEIN. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the Record, I include the following remarks by the Honorable James M. Mead, United States Senator from New York, in memory of the late Honorable WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, a distinguished Member of the House of Representatives:

TRIBUTE BY SENATOR JAMES M. MEAD

The death of the Honorable WILLIAM I. SIROVICH came as almost a tragedy to his army of friends and admirers. Here was a man who felt that the greatest stake in life was the accumulation of friends. A man of science, of culture, and of the higher attainments, he enjoyed nothing more than serving his fellowmen. He was a true public servant in every sense of the word.

Dr. SIROVICH remained a figure in the public eye from the day he graduated from public school in the populous lower East Side of New York. He entered the City College of New York and, subsequently, graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University with the degree of doctor of medicine. At this point he accepted membership on the school board of the fifth district of Manhattan, and he remained there as chairman and member for nearly 25 years. During this time he devoted himself constantly and unselfishly to the public service. He did much valuable work with the hospital commission, the State prison commission, the State charities conference, and other bodies which framed the workmen's compensation laws and which inquired into the subject of adequate pensions for widows and orphans.

By 1918 he had become vice president of the child welfare board of the city of New York; he had been superintendent of the People's Hospital since 1910; he had lectured extensively on educational problems; he had been appearing at large hearings in Albany to advocate social and economic improvements; he had established himself as a leading figure in the pursuit of public improvement.

Vigorous, courageous, intelligent, and liberal, Dr. SIROVICH was an outstanding Member of the House of Representatives. His speeches in the Congress were literary and intellectual gems, and his foresight commanded legislative attention and respect.

I felt a deep personal loss in the death of this friend and adviser. He made service in the House pleasanter and easier and more fruitful for us all. Keen of wit, lovable of personality, and ever forceful in character, his name and his memory are deeply engraved in the hearts of all of us who knew him.

Remarks by Representative Bland

Of Virginia

Mr. BLAND. Mr. Speaker, for many years I served with Hon. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, a Member of this House from the Fourteenth Congressional District of New York. Not only did I serve with him in the House but he was next to me on the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of which I am chairman. He became expert in the work of that committee and faithfully attended its hearings and deliberations. In his enthusiasm to do what was best he solicited information from all sources where it might be found. He was keen to promote the best interests of the merchant marine and of the various subjects falling within the jurisdiction of the committee. Whatever the subject, whether pertaining to the merchant marine or fisheries, or any of the other subjects under the jurisdiction of the committee, he was ready and willing to give the best that was in him.

The jurisdiction of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries extends not only to the merchant marine and fisheries, but also to the Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Lighthouse Service, marine hospitals, and Panama Canal. In all of these subjects Dr. SIROVICH became an expert, and his opinion was sound. Many of his views are now law. Once convinced of the justice of his course, he devoted himself unsparingly to the task of translating his convictions into law.

Dr. SIROVICH was popular. His constant desire to help other Members with their problems made them his friends, and they were considerate of his appeals when matters pertaining to his committee required attention.

Dr. SIROVICH was genial, friendly, forceful, and a capable legislator. He held the best interest of his country as his

first consideration. Even when his health should have precluded his participation in the deliberations of the House or his committee he was present with a constant desire that those whose interests he championed might be fully represented.

Dr. SIROVICH was vigilant and active at all times to protect and promote the best interests of his constituents. He never spared himself where they were concerned. He set an example of service which all of us may emulate and will find it impossible to surpass.

I do not know any way in which I can more fully present my views of his service, and the views of my committee on which he served so efficiently, than by including here a copy of the resolution of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries unanimously adopted on January 4, 1940, in appreciation of the fine, faithful, and devoted service he rendered at all times.

This resolution tells the story of his service with the committee more eloquently than any words of mine. On motion of his colleague from New York, Congressman James O'Leary, a member of the committee, the following resolution was adopted and appears in the minutes of the committee and in the Congressional Record, Seventy-sixth Congress, third session, page 46:

Whereas during the recent recess of Congress this committee has suffered the loss of one of its members who has contributed materially to its work in the past and has rendered most valuable assistance in the success of the committee's legislative program: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, first, that the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the Seventy-sixth Congress records its appreciation of the splendid service on the committee of Hon. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, former ranking Democratic member of the committee and late a Member of the Seventy-sixth Congress of the United States from the Fourteenth Congressional District of New York;

Second, that this committee realizes that in the death of Hon. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH the Nation has lost one of its most patriotic and loyal citizens, the House of Representatives of the United

States has lost a wise, highly cultured, and industrious Member, and this committee has lost a zealous, courageous, and enthusiastic champion and supporter of legislation for the upbuilding and preservation of the American merchant marine, the improvement of working conditions on board ships, and the best interest of all the various subjects coming within the scope of the jurisdiction of this committee;

Third, that the committee will miss the assistance and guidance of Dr. SIROVICH in its deliberations.

Fourth, that the chairman of this committee is hereby authorized to request that a copy of this resolution be made a part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD; and

Fifth, that the clerk of the committee is hereby directed to make this resolution a part of the records of the committee and to transmit a copy of this resolution to the family of the deceased.

Remarks by Representative Coffee

Of Washington

Mr. COFFEE of Washington. Mr. Speaker, the tragic passing of the brilliant Dr. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH was a poignant blow to me. I enjoyed immensely his friendship, the inspiration of his scholarship, his unfailing liberalism, his courageous championship of dissident minorities, and his unalloyed statesmanship.

On frequent occasions he would give me the benefit of his considered counsel on matters of pending legislation. In my first term in this House he rendered me invaluable aid in connection with my official duties. His thorough familiarity with the classics never failed to thrill me, as revealed in the speeches he made on the House floor. I was always inspired and filled with awe by the erudition with which his orations were studded. Dr. SIROVICH possessed a marvelous grasp of science, literature, the drama, history, sociology, medicine. He was conversant with the discoveries of the past; he was alert to the lesson of the centuries. He was keenly attuned to the contributions made by bygone ages.

His passing created a vacancy hard to fill. He was a colorful figure of pleasing appearance and personality. He was always well dressed, a man of sartorial impeccability, at whom one was proud to point as a Member of Congress of the United States.

We miss him in this body, Mr. Speaker; we need him with us today. And so I say, BILL SIROVICH, your physical presence may no longer be with us, but the work which you have done lives on.

I recall on many occasions, when BILL SIROVICH felt impelled to take up the cudgels for some unpopular cause at the very risk of his life, aware as he was of the impending

doom which awaited him as a result of the disease with which he knew only too well he was grievously afflicted. Dr. SIROVICH'S championship of indigent actors and artists was well known. His understanding of their problems was complete. We need more men in this body who are endowed with such versatility, such a warm heart, such unique scholarship as was this remarkable son of New York City.

Remarks by Representative Gavagan

Of New York

Mr. GAVAGAN. Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen of the House, as a friend of our lately lamented colleague, Dr. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, of New York, I think it fitting and appropriate that the beautiful eulogy delivered at his bier by the Reverend Rabbi Elias L. Solomon be inserted in the Congressional Record.

EULOGY BY RABBI ELIAS L. SOLOMON

We have come here to bewail the great loss which the entire community has sustained through the sad passing of our friend, Congressman WILLIAM IRVING SIROVICH. We are all fellow mourners, for Dr. SIROVICH belonged to the community and to the Nation whom he served faithfully in great things as in small. His life and achievements give evidence of what a democracy like ours can produce.

His parents came here some 60 years ago. The simple piety and homely virtues amidst which he was raised, coupled with the ideals of our great Republic, molded the sterling and admirable character of Dr. SIROVICH. He appreciated to the full his double heritage—his heritage as a son of the great historic people, Israel, and his heritage as a citizen of the United States of America—and he repaid both in full measure by his lifelong, intelligent, and devoted service.

Dr. SIROVICH was a champion of his people—a proud, upstanding, self-respecting Jew. He understood full well that the Jew is truest to our beloved America when he is truest to the best things in his spiritual inheritance. He knew that the intelligent, worthwhile non-Jew respects the Jew of genuine faith—and SIROVICH was that. He was loyal to the God of his fathers, regular in his devotions and observances of his ritual, attached to the synagogue—a Jew in every fiber of his being.

He early learned the quality of Jewish hospitality, and his home was an open house to countless men and women of all creeds who came to him for help, advice, and guidance. In all this was manifest the beneficent influence of his pious parents—his sainted father, Rabbi Jacob Sirovich, and his revered mother, Rose Sirovich.

He possessed what our ancient Talmudic sage regarded as the best asset anyone can acquire, the "lev tov"—the "good heart." In his breast beat a heart overflowing with the "milk of human kindness" and as a great humanitarian he will be remembered by thousands.

His humanity is best shown by the following episode:

One of his college professors once visited him in his office and complimented him on his progress to fame and fortune. Modestly and wittily SIROVICH replied: "As to fame, I don't know anything about that; and as to fortune, this is the situation: You see here about 25 patients; of these, 15 I treat gratis. To 5 or 6 I will have to give a few dollars to enable them to pay for the prescription; the rest will probably give me promises of payment."

After giving up his practice to attend to his official duties in Washington he still treated many of his patients gratis on Saturdays and Sundays, visiting the poor in their wretched homes on the lower East Side.

Congressman SIROVICH loved his country with all the ardor of his soul, and eloquently he preached American ideals. He was unsparing of himself in the performance of his duties. He strove for better government and for the better administration of justice.

The author of Proverbs says: "Seest thou a man diligent in his work? He shall stand before kings." WILLIAM SIROVICH was diligent and faithful in his work, and he stood before kings and princes. He stood before the greatest in the land and won the esteem and the friendship of all—the President of our country, the Governor of our State, the mayor of our city.

Now SIROVICH is standing before the Supreme King on high. He can say, "Father, judge me. My hands are clean; my heart is pure. I have ever striven to perform my duty in accordance with my ability. I have faithfully served my God, my country, my people, and my fellow men."

The life and achievements of our friend can serve as an object lesson to the whole world as to the possibilities of development and accomplishment in a free, democratic country like ours.

May the memory of his noble life be a source of solace and inspiration to his stricken sisters, his beloved nephews and nieces, and the rest of the family. May God heal the broken-hearted and wipe away tears from off all faces and send healing to all suffering, sorrowing humanity.

Remarks by Representative Keogh

Of New York

Mr. KEOGH. Mr. Speaker, I shall forever remember with high regard our colleague the gentleman from New York, Dr. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, who was called from us on the 17th of December 1939. He was called, as he lived, from among friends without number, gained through a life of public service, a life motivated by the highest ideals, filled with a love for mankind, and fervently kindled with a desire to improve the lot of his people.

Erudite, active, liberal, alert, kindly, and attentive, here was a Representative from whom all privileged to know him could and did take inspiration.

His passing leaves a void in this harrowed world difficult to fill, and the memory of him will long be felt throughout our Chamber. His constructive legislation, aiding the plight of those needing a champion and friend, will outlive any material monument that may be raised by a mournful family and a grateful constituency.

A great surgeon, scholar, statesman, and stalwart servant has passed on.

May he rest in peace, comforted in the thought of having lived a kindly, religious, constructive life in the service of the world.

Proceedings
in the
House of Representatives

Proceedings in the House

WEDNESDAY, *January 3, 1940.*

This being the day fixed by the twentieth amendment of the Constitution for the annual meeting of the Congress of the United States, the Members of the House of Representatives of the Seventy-sixth Congress met in their Hall, and at 12 o'clock noon were called to order by the Speaker, Hon. William B. Bankhead, a Representative from the State of Alabama.

The Chaplain, Rev. James Shera Montgomery, D. D., offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, our Father, infinite in goodness and wisdom, we approach Thy altar of prayer. We thank Thee for that love which sings through the ages and whose tremendous comfort we may feel as the years pass by. We pray for that guidance which enables us to weave in the great loom of life characters which shall stand the judgment of time. In these perilous days hush our souls to meet the shocks of this mad world, wearying along in sands and thorns and in the bitterness of unbridled passion. O for that peace which Thou hast promised! We look upon the mountain and it is not there; upon the valley and it is dark; upon the horizon and we see the faintest star. O lift and strengthen Thy right hand in the darkness that the high arms of the tyranny of war may be broken. Inspire us with the hardy, adventurous souls that first christened the hillsides and plains of our young Republic. Grant that hope, faith, and courage may burn with living fire along the faltering paths of our country until it finds its full fruition in the spirit of the Master. By worth and service, by fortitude and patriotism, may the Congress earn the right to stand erect among the underscored

servants of our free land. In the folds of divine care, in the embrace of a Father's love, bless and guide our President, our Speaker, the Members, and officers and employees.

Our Father of mercy and glory, how frail and transitory our span of life; our ranks are appallingly broken. They toiled and felt the rugged ways of time and passed on with the pledge of Thy power that death is just a phase of life that flows on and on. They are now where they behold the unforgotten faces and where the lost ones speak again. In our dear Redeemer's name. Amen.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution, which I send to the desk.

The Clerk read (H. Res. 333) as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. RAYBURN. Mr. Speaker, as a further mark of respect to the deceased Member, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; and accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 7 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, January 4, 1940, at 12 o'clock meridian.

THURSDAY, *January 4, 1940.*

Mr. BLAND. Mr. Speaker, I desire to ask unanimous consent to introduce into the Record at this point a resolution of sympathy on the death of Congressman SIROVICH unanimously adopted this morning by the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

The resolution is as follows:

Whereas during the recent recess of Congress this committee has suffered the loss of one of its members who has contributed materially to its work in the past and has rendered most valuable assistance in the success of the committee's legislative program: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, First, that the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the Seventy-sixth Congress records its appreciation of the splendid service on the committee of Hon. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, former ranking Democratic member of the committee and late a Member of the Seventy-sixth Congress of the United States from the Fourteenth Congressional District of New York;

Second, that this committee realizes that in the death of Hon. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH the Nation has lost one of its most patriotic and loyal citizens, the House of Representatives of the United States has lost a wise, highly cultured, and industrious Member, and this committee has lost a zealous, courageous, and enthusiastic champion and supporter of legislation for the upbuilding and preservation of the American merchant marine, the improvement of working conditions on board ships, and the best interest of all of the various subjects coming within the scope of the jurisdiction of this committee;

Third, that the committee will miss the assistance and guidance of Dr. SIROVICH in its deliberations;

Fourth, that the chairman of this committee is hereby authorized to request that a copy of this resolution be made a part of the Congressional Record; and

Fifth, that the clerk of the committee is hereby directed to make this resolution a part of the records of the committee, and to transmit a copy of this resolution to the family of the deceased.

(Adopted by the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries January 4, 1940.)

MONDAY, *January 8, 1940.*

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Frazier, its legislative clerk, announced that the Senate had passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, late a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

THURSDAY, *January 18, 1940.*

Mr. KRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert in the Record at this point a resolution adopted by the Committee on Patents in executive session this morning on the death of our late colleague, Hon. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, of New York.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The matter referred to follows:

RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON PATENTS

Whereas in the recent recess of Congress the Committee on Patents has suffered the loss of its late chairman, the Honorable WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, whose guidance and counsel has contributed so greatly to the success of its legislative program: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, First, that the Committee on Patents of the Seventy-sixth Congress record its appreciation for the splendid services rendered it by its late chairman, the Representative of the Fourteenth Congressional District of New York in the Seventy-sixth Congress of the United States;

Second, that the Committee on Patents is deeply sensible of the fact that in the death of the Honorable WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, its late chairman, the Nation has suffered the loss of one of its most loyal and self-sacrificing, high-minded, and humanitarian citizens, an uncompromising champion of democracy and freedom;

the House of Representatives of the United States has been bereft of an enterprising, clear-thinking, cultivated, and industrious Member, passionately devoted to the welfare of his fellow man; and this committee has been deprived of a spirited supporter and tireless sponsor of legislation designed to protect the rights of the author and the composer, and to foster the development of the arts and sciences in America, as well as the best interests of all the various subjects falling to the jurisdiction of this committee;

Third, that the Committee on Patents will miss the generous support and sensible counsel of the Honorable WILLIAM I. SIROVICH in its deliberations;

Fourth, that the chairman of the Committee on Patents is hereby authorized to request that a copy of this resolution be made a part of the Congressional Record; and

Fifth, that the clerk of the Committee on Patents is hereby directed to make this resolution a part of the committee records and to transmit a copy of it to the family of the deceased.

Adopted by the Committee on Patents January 18, 1940.

WEDNESDAY, *March 13, 1940.*

Mr. EDELSTEIN. Mr. Chairman, March 18 is the anniversary of the birthday of Dr. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, who, until he passed away last December, so ably represented the Fourteenth District of New York in this House for 13 years. As his successor in office, it is my privilege and responsibility to carry on along the path Dr. SIROVICH blazed. In honor of his memory and to commemorate his birth, it is only fitting to present to you the entire career of this gifted personality, who, only a brief few months ago, was in the land of the living, strenuously engaged in serving his God, his country, and his community. His untimely and unexpected death 2 weeks before the beginning of the present session deprived the people of that district of one who had distinguished himself by his self-sacrificing work for democracy and humanity.

The span of his 58 years is a chronicle of the opportunities offered by democracy. Dr. SIROVICH accepted them, used

them, and repaid them a hundredfold, by strengthening our democracy, by creating opportunities for the oppressed, the underprivileged, and the persecuted. His activities in behalf of the public welfare were confined to no one field. He was not a physician in the narrow sense only. His task was to apply himself, under the oath of Hippocrates, to the entire field of human endeavor. The practically unlimited scope of his interests did not mean that his numerous talents were spread too thinly, for he was no "jack of all trades and master of none." Unfortunately, the driving energy which underlay all his work wore out the physical structure too soon, while his mind was still in its full vigor. He warned his colleagues of this danger but failed to heed his own good advice.

Except for the first few years in the city of his birth, York, Pa., he spent his entire life on the East Side of New York City. There he was reared and educated, and there he began his efforts to improve the lot of the poor and the needy. His early education, including a bachelor of arts degree from the College of the City of New York in 1902, he obtained because of democracy's belief in public education. His subsequent formal education—for he never ceased his studies—he obtained through his own endeavors. He taught in the city's public schools, and with this money he attended Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons. In 1906, he received both his degrees as a doctor of medicine and a master of arts.

For two decades, until he was elected a Member of the Seventieth Congress, he devoted himself to public service, rewarded only by the high esteem of his entire community, and often furthering such work with his own funds. Three Governors and three mayors appointed Dr. Sirovich to public posts. For 20 years he was a member and chairman of his local school board. He successfully appeared before the legislature to urge improved salarly laws for teachers.

As a member of the State commission on widows' pensions, he toured the United States at his own expense to study the methods of other States in handling this problem. He used his studies in writing the State's present child-welfare law. As vice president of the board of child welfare, he inaugurated a complete health service for orphans under its jurisdiction. He also was a member of the State charities committee, State hospital commission, and the State prison commission. It was he who fostered the establishment of vocational education in the State's prison system.

Even then, Dr. SIROVICH knew the need of a fair deal between capital and labor. In those days he realized that the balance against labor needed redressing. He appeared before the State legislature to urge the adoption of an adequate employers' liability law, and again in support of workmen's compensation. His judicial temperament which could decide on the facts and not on his acknowledged sympathy for labor, as well as his acquaintance with the industry's technique made him invaluable as impartial arbitrator between the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, and the Manufacturers' Association. He served in that arduous post for 2 years before the press of duties called him elsewhere. In that time he handed down many decisions on the controversies which still vexed that industry. His calm and soothing manner, his willingness to listen patiently until each side had fully presented its case, his suggestions of reasonable compromises, his fair decision where both sides could not agree, earned him the approbation of all in the industry.

Dr. SIROVICH's father was a Rabbi, and his son was reared in the Hebraic faith. In his manhood, he did not desert that creed, and he gave of his strength to it. When the civilized world was horrified by the government-instigated programs of Russia's "Black Hundreds," he was one of the four leading spirits who organized the American Citizens Committee to abrogate the Russo-American Treaty. He persevered in that

task until that treaty was denounced by our Government. His faith was not based on a rigid sectarianism, however. He freely gave of his goodness and energy to all individuals who called to him for succor, irrespective of their race, creed, or color.

As an educator, Dr. SIROVICH firmly believed in adult education. Throughout his life, he did not cease to educate himself, although he held three degrees from institutions of higher learning. To aid others he wrote for newspapers and periodicals and he lectured for the board of education at Cooper Union, Carnegie Hall, and the Metropolitan Opera House.

All this time Dr. SIROVICH practiced medicine among those in need and distress in the community in which he had been raised. A great deal of his service was rendered without remuneration. Conditions among the immigrants strongly impressed him with the need of medical welfare and Americanization work in their behalf. To see the need was to fulfill it. He intervened in many cases to prevent unjust deportations in cases of hardship.

His recognized talent as a diagnostician and surgeon led to his election to the American College of Physicians and Surgeons. For 20 years he served, again without compensation, except the reward of a job well done, as superintendent of Peoples' Hospital. His forceful administration and keen executive ability revitalized the hospital.

For 20 years, with courage, vision, ability, and energy, Dr. SIROVICH had served his community in many ways, all without thought of compensation. In 1926 the Fourteenth New York Congressional District chose him as its Representative in the Seventieth Congress. So well did he do his work that it reelected him to each succeeding Congress, including this one, with ever-increasing majorities.

As a Member of this honorable body, he regarded himself as the guardian of a public trust, requiring ever new and

greater effort on his part. He brought to bear on his congressional duties those same qualities which had made him a faithful public servant before. As always, he represented the underprivileged and the oppressed, "those who were not able to help themselves."

The first bill he introduced as a Congressman was one to provide for old-age pensions. He also fought for unemployment insurance and child welfare. These bills were in advance of their time, and then, unlike now, lacked popular support. In a Republican-controlled House they were foredoomed to a silent death in committee. However, the indomitable heart and mind of Dr. SIROVICH did not surrender to defeat so easily. Today the measures for which he fought so valiantly are part of the New Deal embodied in the various titles of the Social Security Act.

The major part of Dr. SIROVICH'S district consisted, and much to his regret and mine, still consists of inadequate housing. The Wagner Housing Act of 1937 was considered by him to be a brave start along the right road. He took an active part to secure consideration at the first session of this Congress, of amendments intended to increase the lending limits of the Housing Authority.

His statesmanship was not limited by the territorial boundaries of his district. When the *Morro Castle* distaster shocked the Nation, Dr. SIROVICH, like other leaders in Congress, could not tolerate such wanton waste of lives. As ranking member of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, he took an active part in the ensuing hearings. His vigorous tenacity obtained the enactment of a modernized safety-at-sea code to make repetition of such a sea disaster impossible. Although none of his constituents went down to the sea in ships, he took an active interest in the working conditions of seamen. One of the last measures he introduced was to provide an unemployment insurance system for them. To him it mattered not whether the problem affected his district or

the Nation as a whole. His breadth of vision enlisted his aid for all causes of benefit to the Nation.

As a writer, he early became aware of the problems of those who lived on their literary and musical creations. As chairman of the Committee on Patents and Copyrights, he did much to aid them. He believed that the Government could and should aid artists. He introduced, at each session, a bill to establish a department of fine arts, so that this country might approach, as well as it could "the glory that was Greece." The various arts projects of the W. P. A., in no small measure, derived from his efforts, and he strongly opposed their hamstringing in the last relief bill.

Dr. SIROVICH was a firm believer in a strong civil-service system as the best means of dispatching public business efficiently, and promoting democracy. He understood the problems of Federal employees, and he fought for the recognition of their just claims.

His circle of friends was a symbol of his personality. His talent for friendship won him admirers in all walks of life. "Friend" was no empty word to him. To those to whom he gave that meaningful title he gave unswerving loyalty. His last words on the floor of this House just before the adjournment of the special session were in defense of a friend.

Typically, he charged to the attack by saying:

> It takes a lifetime for a man to build up an honorable character. It takes but a moment to destroy it.

He was an ardent admirer and close friend of President Roosevelt. As such he was a true Democrat and a staunch New Dealer. He abhorred pretense and sham and outspokenly opposed dictatorship and religious and racial oppression. His knowledge of these hateful symptons of a world in turmoil was gained at first hand from his travels in Europe and Asia.

I know this to be but a brief and inadequate summary of the career of a great man whose entire life was devoted to

public service without thought of personal aggrandizement. He was a bachelor and, although he bestowed a full measure of love on his sisters and their children, he was the devoted "stepfather of 40,000 orphans." Democracy's advantages had made him a man. His use of those opportunities more than repaid that democracy. His distinguished public services, long recognized, were rewarded by the receipt of an alumni public-service medal from his alma mater.

The Lord has called Dr. SIROVICH from our midst. His unflagging zeal, his determination to finish the tasks ahead, his untiring mental energy no longer aid us in realizing the objectives we seek to accomplish. Although there are others to carry on, his passing will long be mourned. Of him it can well be said:

To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die.

Proceedings
in the
United States Senate

Proceedings in the Senate

THURSDAY, *January 4, 1940.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Chaffee, one of its reading clerks, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, late a Representative from the State of New York, and transmitted the resolution of the House thereon.

Mr. MEAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Appendix of the Record an editorial tribute to the late Representative WILLIAM IRVING SIROVICH, of New York, by Harry H. Schlacht, published in the East Side News of New York City of December 23, 1939.

CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM IRVING SIROVICH—A SOLDIER OF HUMANITY

(By Harry H. Schlacht)

The East Side is grief-stricken at the untimely demise of Congressman WILLIAM IRVING SIROVICH. Few men have played so brilliant a part in the Congress of the United States as the celebrated East Sider who for nearly two decades has been a great leader of American opinion. Truly, "a great oak has fallen in the forest of our public life. It fell not when its leaves had gone and its branches were bare, and it had lost its beauty, but at the very height of its perfection, of its usefulness and its charm. It was still putting forth its branches; its leaves were yet green; its roots struck daily deeper into the soil of our affection."

No spirit shines by its own illumination and none can transmit more light than it receives. Hence the strength and range of his influence reflected Divine Providence which "shapes our ends, rough hew them as we may." Dr. SIROVICH faced a sequence of events for which his poise and steadiness were exactly fitted. The tumult of our times with its complexity of problems enlarged his capacity for human service. He combined in one symphonic splendor the amazing unity of discordant elements about him. Indeed, he made such use of his equipment that the country he served idealized him

as a model of representative government and its finest personal embodiment.

Dr. SIROVICH comes of a long line of pious and devout ancestors—Talmudic scholars—whose learning was as plain as their thinking was high. It was from his noted rabbinical father and mother—whom I had known so well—that he derived the flame of intellect, the glow of spirit, and the beauty of temperament that was so unique. It was his saintly mother who taught the infant lips to lisp the first prayer. She shared his childhood griefs; she stood in the doorway to give her blessings as the lad started for school, and when the young man went forth to college and his ultimate graduation as school teacher and later as physician. Wherever he wandered her prayers followed him. In truth, from the moment SIROVICH saw the light of day until his premature grave, the Bible saturated his being. His addresses—classics of American oratory—are sprinkled and studded with Biblical ideas and phrases. And thus upon this solid rock of the Scriptures, he built his career.

The East Side is the shore front to Ellis Island. Throughout the years he has been in a special sense the friend of all comers. Just as he broadened the visions of school teachers, social workers, and physicians, so he stretched the imagination of his fellow Americans of older stock as the interpreter of the stranger within the gates; interpreter also of one race to another; of one generation to another; and of one economic class to another. The common brotherhood of man was not a phrase to him. He knew people. He knew moreover the psychology of human conflict. His opposition to war and militarism was deeply rooted in his experience as a neighbor of all races on the East Side.

His blazing intellect, fed and enriched by the constant study of the best thoughts of the great minds of all ages; his all persuasive eloquence, his teeming and radiant imagination electrified his audience; his brilliant and sporting fancy illuminated the most arid subject with a glow of sunrise; his prodigious and never-failing memory and his playful wit always bursting forth with an irresistible impulse had been the subject of wide commendation in all circles.

It was his steadfast conviction that we are a nation of immigrants and that all have played a conspicuous and majestic role in the establishment of a great nation and that all races from the *Mayflower* down the corridors of time have marched to one measure, to follow the one flag. Dr. SIROVICH has added new glory to old glory.

In the Chambers of Congress he was a faithful disciple of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, and bore aloft his standard. He

felt that no greater dream ever rose in the minds of men than that vision which came to the founding fathers. It was his great brain that designed, his flaming heart that forged, and his sublime eloquence that sounded the cry for old-age pension legislation. And for that alone he has procured for himself a niche in the Temple of Faith. And yet, who shall deny him preeminence in the cause of education, in the promotion of relief for the poor and needy, for silencing the cry of the widow and the orphan, and in his last great struggle for the underprivileged of the Nation.

Dr. SIROVICH, the scholar, the statesman, the philanthropist and great American is not dead. His record of achievements will ever be green and vivid in our memories and will blossom in our lives with a supernatural beauty. He was a soul of statesmanship. He made the world his debtor as a soldier in the service of humanity. And when he died in the supreme hour of life, the human race lost one of its noblest examples, and all friends of freedom and justice, in whose cause he lived and died, joined hands at his grave.

"Statesman, friend to truth of soul sincere,
In action faithful and in honor clear,
Who broke no promise, served no private end,
Who gained humanity's title and who lost no friend."

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following resolution (H. Res. 333) from the House of Representatives, which was read:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UNITED STATES,
January 3, 1940.

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Mr. MEAD. Mr. President, I submit a resolution, which I ask to have read and immediately considered.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The resolution will be read.

The resolution (S. Res. 206) was read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, late a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Mr. BARKLEY. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Member of the House I move that the Senate do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; and (at 1 o'clock p. m.) the Senate adjourned, the adjournment being under the order previously entered, until Monday, January 8, 1940, at 12 o'clock meridian.

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